

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

Claim 1: (Twice Amended)

A dynamic ankle foot orthosis comprising a posterior base shell with an upper tibia portion and a lower tibia portion, a tongue having an upper portion adapted to cover an anterior portion of a lower leg and lower portion adapted to cover a top portion of a foot of a wearer, a front portion and a back portion disposed about a vertical axis, and outer anterior pre-tibial shell having an inside surface and an outside surface, said inside surface is attached to an outside surface of the upper portion of said tongue, strap means attached to the outside surface of the outer anterior pre-tibial shell for securing said posterior base shell, said outer anterior pre-tibial shell and said tongue to a wearer; said posterior base shell further includes a lower ankle forefoot portion with a top and bottom portion disposed about a horizontal axis of a subject patient's foot, and a pair of upper flanges having an inside surface and an outside surface, said upper flanges extending forwardly from the lower tibia portion of the posterior base shell and adapted for covering and supporting the ankle area of the wearer, and wherein when said orthosis is worn by a wearer, the outside surface of the outer anterior pre-tibial shell is positioned to contact directly with the inside surface of said upper flanges, and said strap is positioned to cover the outside surface of said upper flanges.

Claim 2: Cancelled

Claim 3: (Twice Amended):

A dynamic ankle orthosis according to claim 1, wherein said posterior base shell further includes a pair of lower flanges, and attachment means for securing another strap means to the lower flanges.

Claim 4: Cancelled**Claim 5: Cancelled****Claim 6: (Twice Amended):**

A dynamic ankle foot orthosis according to claim 1, including attachment means for securing said upper flanges of said posterior base shell to said strap means, and for securing a lower pair of flanges of said posterior base shell to another strap means.

Claim 7: (Twice Amended):

A dynamic ankle foot orthosis according to claim 1, wherein said posterior base shell further includes forefoot posting and hind foot posting disposed about said bottom portion of said lower ankle forefoot portion.

Claim 8: (Twice Amended):

A dynamic ankle foot orthosis comprising:

(a) a posterior base shell with an upper tibia portion and a lower tibia portion, a front portion and a back portion disposed about a vertical axis, a lower portion having a top portion and a bottom portion disposed about a generally horizontal axis, and a tongue having an upper portion adapted to cover an anterior portion of a lower leg and a lower portion adapted to cover a top portion of a foot of a wearer;

(b) said posterior base shell further includes a forefoot posting and a hind foot posting at the bottom portion of said lower portion of said posterior base shell;

(c) an outer anterior pre-tibial shell having an inside surface and an outside surface, said inside surface is attached to an outside surface of the upper portion of said tongue for engaging said posterior base shell about the vertical axis so as to maintain the ankle foot orthosis in proper attitude while ensuring dynamic flexibility;

(d) said tongue disposed between the posterior base shell and the outer anterior pre-tibial shell;

(e) said front portion of said upper portion of said posterior base shell further includes a pair of upper flanges having an inside surface and an outside surface, said upper flanges extending forwardly from the lower tibia portion of the posterior base shell and adapted for covering and supporting the ankle area of a wearer, said top portion of said lower portion of said posterior base shell further includes a pair of lower flanges;

- (f) an upper strap attached to the outside surface of said outer anterior pre-tibial shell for retaining said posterior base shell, said outer anterior pre-tibial shell, and said upper portion of said tongue together, wherein when said orthosis is worn by a wearer, the outside surface of the anterior pre-tibial shell is positioned to contact directly with the inside surface of said upper flanges, and said upper strap is positioned to cover the outside surface of said upper flanges;
- (g) a strap for retaining and securing the lower flanges of the lower portion of said posterior base shell to the lower portion of the tongue;
- (h) a liner disposed on the top portion of said lower portion of said posterior base shell; and
- (i) fastener means provided for attaching and securing said upper strap and said strap to the pair of upper and lower flanges disposed upon the upper portion and lower portion of said posterior base shell.